

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4162
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
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USELM LIVE OAK

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 21265

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR PGOV ACOM GW US UK FR
SUBJECT: QUADRIGA COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

REFS: (A) BONN 20487 (B) STATE 267024 BOTH NOTAL

BEGIN SUMMARY. THE BONN GROUP RECOMMENDS THAT THE
QUADRIGA NET BE TESTED ON JANUARY 31, 1977 IN
CONJUNCTION WITH LIVE OAK EXERCISE STEADFAST I.
REQUEST DEPARTMENT'S REACTION TO THIS PROPOSAL.
END SUMMARY.

1. THE FRENCH, UK AND FRG REPS HAVE EXPRESSED AGREEMENT
IN PRINCIPLE TO THE DEPARTMENT'S CONDITIONS FOR
RETAINING THE QUADRIGA NET. THE FRENCH BONN GROUP REP
(BOISSIEU) HAS ASKED FOR A DEFINITION OF WHAT THE US
MEANS BY "PRINCIPALS" AND WHAT THE US CONSIDERS A
"RIGID TEST SCHEDULE."

2. DURING THE COURSE OF A PRE-EXERCISE BRIEFING FOR
BONN GROUP REPS ON LIVE OAK CPX STEADFAST I ON
DECEMBER 15, BOISSIEU OBSERVED THAT THERE WAS ALWAYS
AN ELEMENT OF UNREALITY ABOUT SUCH EXERCISES. WHILE
THE WAG MAKES DECISIONS ON THE SPOT DURING THE CPX,
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IN REAL LIFE THERE WOULD BE DELAYS WHILE WAG MEMBERS
SOUGHT INSTRUCTIONS FROM CAPITALS. BOISSIEU WONDERED
WHETHER IN STEADFAST I (JANUARY 26-FEBRUARY 1, 1977)
OR IN SOME FUTURE EXERCISE THERE SHOULD NOT ALSO
BE A TEST OF HOW LONG IT WOULD ACTUALLY TAKE TO OBTAIN
DECISIONS FROM CAPITALS.

3. IN THIS CONNECTION, THE UK REP (HITCH) EXPRESSED THE IDEA THAT IT MIGHT BE USEFUL TO SCHEDULE A QUADRIGA TEST DURING STEADFAST I. BONN GROUP MEMBERS HAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT THE SAME COMMUNICATORS WHO WOULD OPERATE QUADRIGA ALSO ARE INVOLVED IN LIVE OAK COMMUNICATIONS, AND THEY THEREFORE AGREED THAT THE HITCH SUGGESTION HAD CONSIDERABLE MERIT.

4. IN FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSION AT THE DECEMBER 17 BONN GROUP MEETING, ALL REPS AGREED TO RECOMMEND TO CAPITALS THAT QUADRIGA BE TESTED AT 1500 GMT ON MONDAY, JANUARY 3L, 1977. THE TEST WOULD INVOLVE SUBSTANTIVE OFFICERS AT A SUITABLE LEVEL AND WOULD BE RELATED TO THE STATE OF PLAY IN CPX STEADFAST I.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: DEPARTMENT'S REACTION TO THE ABOVE PROPOSAL, AND GUIDANCE FOR RESPONDING TO THE FRENCH QUESTIONS IN PARA ONE ABOVE.
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